

The Public Health Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Cambridge

COVID-19 WEEKLY REPORT

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 22, 2021



Cambridge
Public Health
Department

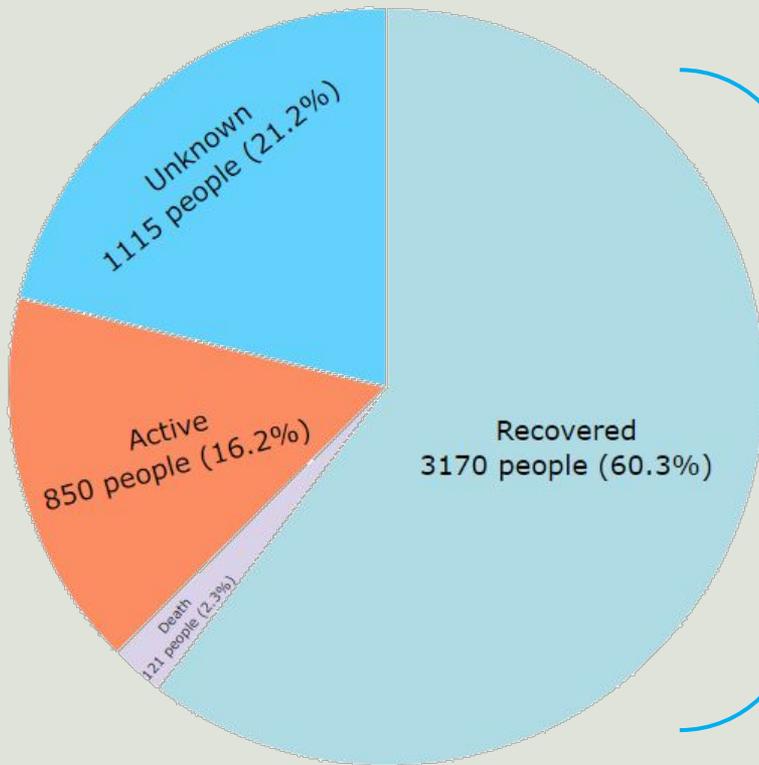


CHA Cambridge
Health Alliance



Case Snapshot (as of March 21)

We continue to monitor cases in Cambridge, especially in neighborhoods of greatest need:



5,256 Total Cases¹

(confirmed, probable and suspect)

- 4,952 in the community
- 304 cases in long-term cares

121 Deaths¹

- 63% of deaths were among LTC residents

Active Cases¹

- 16% of all cases are active

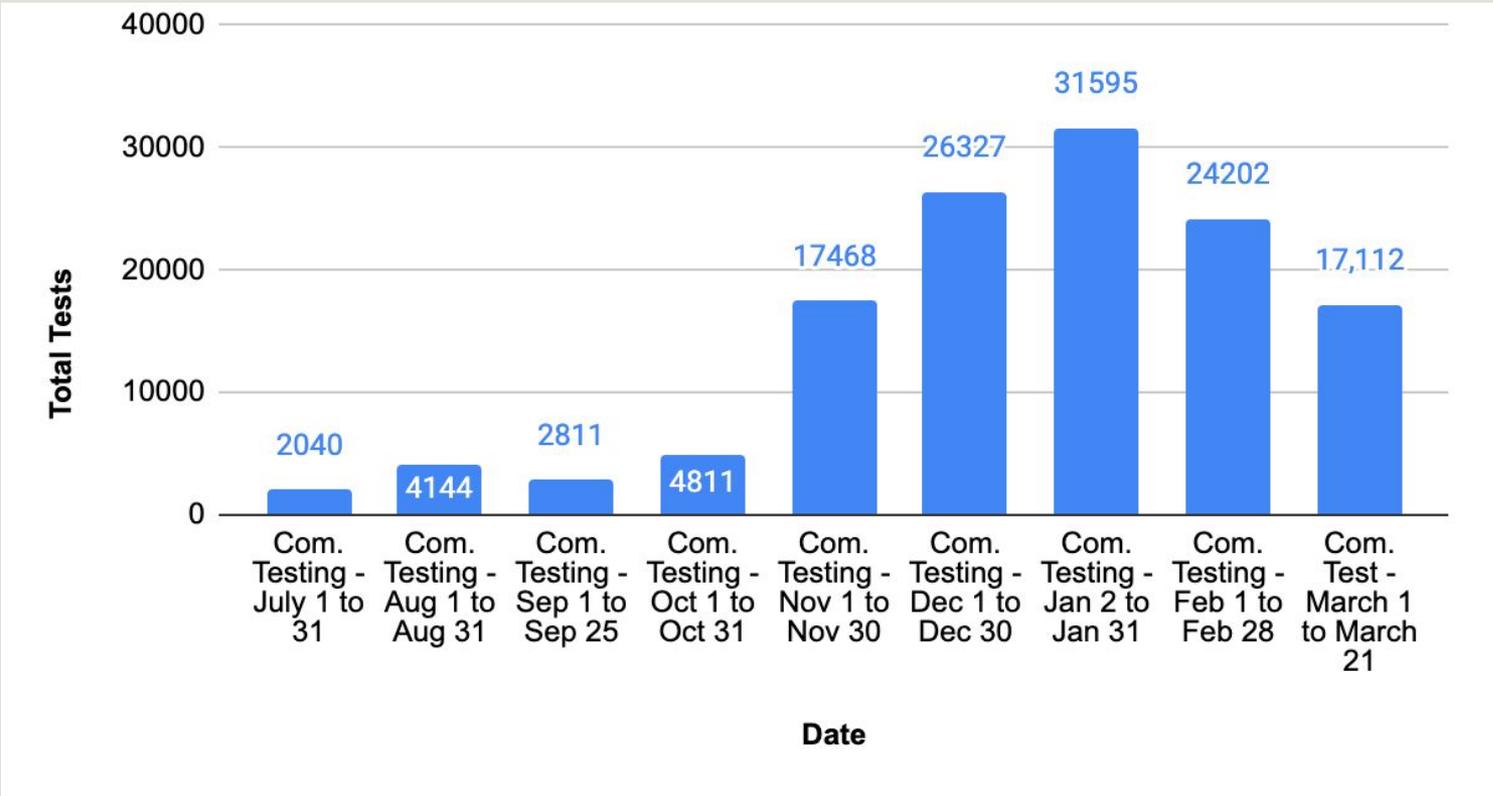
15.4 Confirmed Cases per 100,000¹

(7-day average for March 14–20)

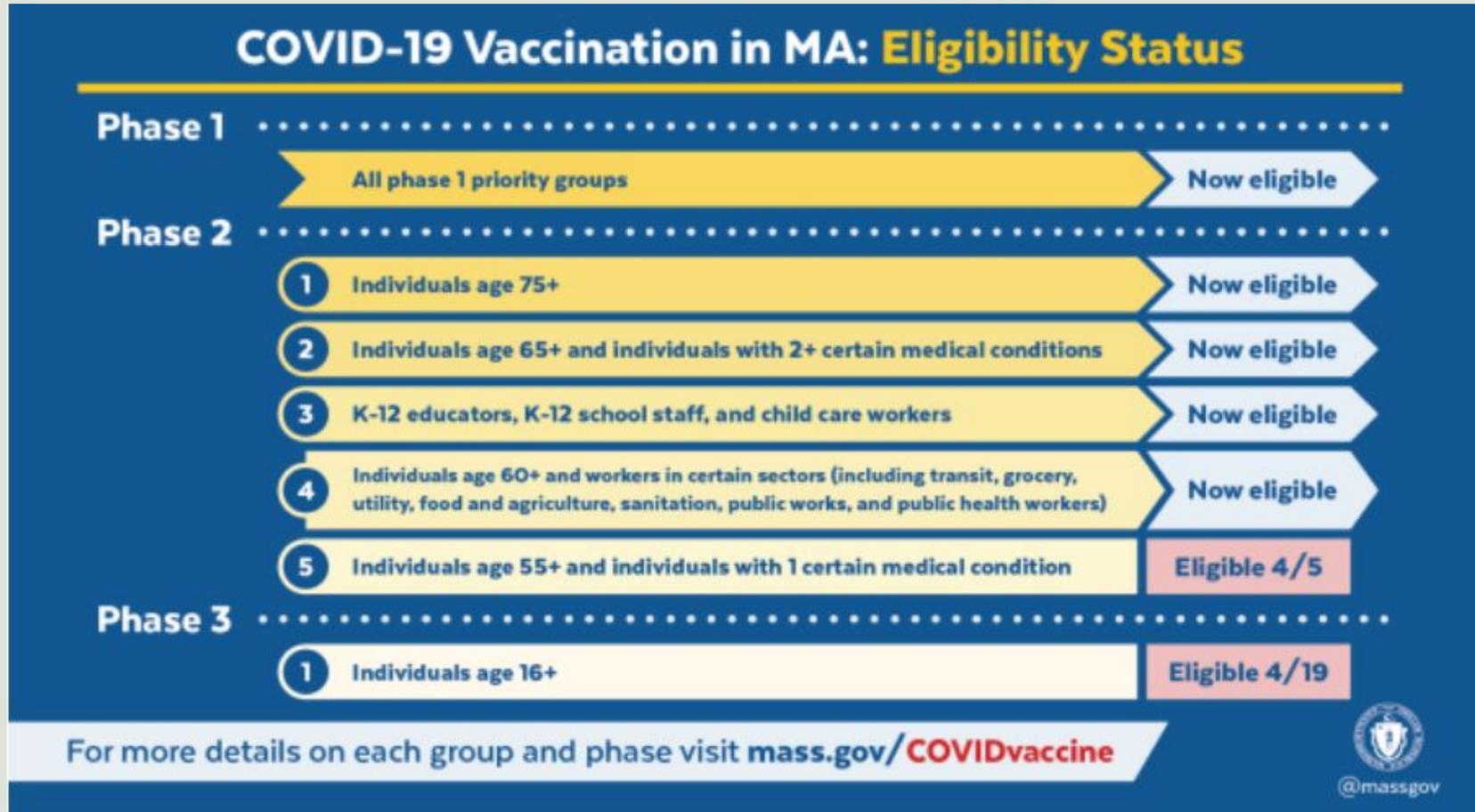
Test Positivity²

- 0.45% (2-week period ending March 13)

COVID-19 Community Testing in Cambridge



COVID-19 Vaccine Update



State Vaccine Updates

- **25% of Massachusetts residents** have received at least one dose of vaccine, as March 16.¹
- MA vaccine supply remains constrained; the state is receiving just over 400,000 doses a week from the federal government.
- Timeline for remaining groups:
 - **March 22:** Residents 60+ and certain workers
 - **April 5:** Residents age 55+ and those with one medical condition that meets state criteria.
 - **April 19:** General public age 16+
- Residents can pre-register to book an appointment at a mass vaccination site at mass.gov/COVIDVaccine.

¹ Massachusetts Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Municipality Vaccination Report, March 18, 2021. ² Massachusetts Department of Public Health Daily COVID-19 Vaccine Report (March 18).

City Vaccine Update

Phase 2 Eligible Groups

The Cambridge Pandemic Collaborative (CPC) began administering vaccines in early January. As of March 19:

- **2,480 eligible people** had received at least one dose (Moderna) or the single-dose vaccine (J&J) at City-run clinics.
- **99% of Moderna vaccine** received had been administered.
- **Cambridge Housing Authority senior/disabled housing**
 - Beginning the week of March 29, CPHD will begin reaching out to 250+ senior residents living in 16 CHA properties.

City Vaccine Update: Homebound Vaccination Program

- Per state guidance, CPHD will be administering vaccine to eligible homebound residents.
- Eligibility for individuals who cannot leave home with assistance or significant support:
 - Those who are bedbound
 - Those with cognitive/behavioral issues (dementia)
 - Those with mobility issues/frail individuals
- CPHD, Cambridge Housing Authority, Council on Aging, and Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services are working to identify and screen residents who meet the specific criteria for homebound status.

Regional Vaccine Site

- On March 16, the state approved a proposal from **Cambridge Health Alliance, Tufts University, and nine communities** to create the Metro North COVID-19 Vaccination Partnership.
 - Arlington, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Medford, Revere, Somerville, and Winthrop.
- Continued constraints on vaccine supply mean that vaccine is not yet available for the partnership.
- **Proposed sites:** CHA's Vaccination Center (Somerville), Tufts' Gantcher Center, other sites TBD.

City Vaccine Update

Vaccination Race/Ethnicity Data

The proportion of Cambridge residents by race and ethnicity who have received **at least one dose of vaccine** in Cambridge and Massachusetts:

Race/Ethnicity	Cambridge ¹	MA ²
Asian	11%	15%
Black	21%	17%
Hispanic/Latinx	11%	10%
Multiracial	16%	23%
White	22%	26%
Total % of all residents who have received at least one dose	21%	25%

¹MA Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Municipality Vaccination Report, March 18, 2021.² Race/Ethnicity Data: MA Department of Public Health Weekly Vaccine Report, March 18, 2021. Data for Cambridge and Massachusetts is current as of March 16, 2021.

COVID-19 Vaccine Communications

Clinician Speakers Bureau

- CPS Educators and Staff (March 24)
- Greater Boston Association of Black Social Workers (invited to speak, March 24)
- Cambridge Learning Center (Date /TBD)
- Cambridge Community Center (Date TBD)
- Faith Community (Dates TBD)

Communications Campaign

- Multi-pronged approach
 - Launch a grassroots campaign in hard-to-reach communities to address hesitancy, registration, and accessibility.
 - Work with community organizations and leaders for broad dissemination and outreach.
 - Micro-targeted in specific neighborhoods.